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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 2558**
Mitsuhiro MATSUZAKI et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2004_2043A
Serial No. 10/520,620 : Group Art Unit 1711
Filed January 10, 2005 : Examiner Duc Truong

PROCESS FOR PRODUCING : **Mail Stop Amendment**
POLYARYLENE SULFIDE

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of August 31, 2006, Applicants submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the presently claimed invention over the disclosures of the references relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting the claims. Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of these remarks.

Initially, Applicants note that all of the references applied by the Examiner in rejecting the claims, or references corresponding to those references, have already been considered during International Preliminary Examination of the PCT application on which the present U.S. application is based. Referring to the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER), a copy of which is of record, the D2 reference (EP 0 568 366, also cited by the U.S. Examiner) corresponds to the Kawakami et al. reference (US '894) cited by the U.S. Examiner; the D3 reference (EP 0 259 984) corresponds to the Iwasaki et al. reference (US '164) cited by the U.S. Examiner; and EP 0 436 120 cited by the U.S. Examiner is the D4 reference in the IPER. The claims which were considered in issuing the IPER are the same as the claims now on file in the present U.S. application, except that the U.S. claims avoid multiple dependency. As concluded in